

41

interface device **1928** can provide a feature to expand the user interface **1808** the device application into the entire available space of the freeform window **1804**. A fourth user interface device **1920** may provide a control to change the user interface **1808** to a second user interface that displays other information. Other user interface devices that provide other functionality are contemplated as one skilled in the art would understand.

An embodiment of a method **2000** for providing a freeform window is shown in FIG. **20**. While a general order for the steps of the method **2000** is shown in FIG. **20**. Generally, the method **2000** starts with a start operation **2004** and ends with an end operation **2024**. The method **2000** can include more or fewer steps or can arrange the order of the steps differently than those shown in FIG. **20**. The method **2000** can be executed as a set of computer-executable instructions executed by a computer system and encoded or stored on a computer readable medium. Hereinafter, the method **2000** shall be explained with reference to the systems, components, modules, software, data structures, user interfaces, etc. described in conjunction with FIGS. **1-19**.

A computer system **1104** and a device **100** can be connected, physically, electrically, wirelessly, etc. The device **100** can automatically recognize the connection and functionally connect the device **100** with the computer system **1104** to form a unified system **1100**, in step **2008**. In other embodiments, a user may provide input to functionally connect the device **100** with the computer system **1104**. In response to the function connection, the device **100** can generate a unified desktop **1300**, in step **2012**. The unified desktop **1300** can expand or create a single user interface for the unified system **1100** across the screens of the device **100** and the computer system **1104**.

The device **100** may then execute a device application, in step **2016**. In embodiments, the device **100** may receive a selection of a device application from the unified desktop **1300**. For example, the user may select a shortcut **1812**. Regardless, the device **100** can execute the selected device application in the computer system environment. When the device **100** executes the device application, a freeform window **1804** may be created to encapsulate or display the user interface **1808** of the device application. Thus, the device **100** displays the user interface **1808** of the device application in the freeform window **1804**, in step **2020**.

An embodiment of a method **2100** for executing a device application in a freeform window is shown in FIG. **21**. A general order for the steps of the method **2100** is shown in FIG. **21**. Generally, the method **2100** starts with a start operation **2104** and ends with an end operation **2124**. The method **2100** can include more or fewer steps or can arrange the order of the steps differently than those shown in FIG. **21**. The method **2100** can be executed as a set of computer-executable instructions executed by a computer system and encoded or stored on a computer readable medium. Hereinafter, the method **2100** shall be explained with reference to the systems, components, modules, software, data structures, user interfaces, etc. described in conjunction with FIGS. **1-20**.

The processor **204** of the device **100** can receive a selection of a device application, in step **2108**. A selection can be a user interface action conducted on a shortcut **1812** or other user interface device. Regardless, the user conducts a user interface action to execute a device application. In response to receiving the selection by the user, the device **100** can determine any device application feature, controls, or other functionality to be provided for the user interface **1808**, in step **2112**. The features, controls, etc. can be functions that conduct and action or complete a process for the device applica-

42

tion and may not function in a typical computer system environment. These functions can include expanding or contracting the window, providing alternative displays, entering information, executing sub-processes, etc. Some possible features or controls are as discussed with FIG. **19**.

The processor **204** of the device **100** can provide a freeform window **1804** for the user interface **1808** of the device application, in step **2116**. The freeform window **1808** can be as described in FIGS. **18** and **19**. As part of the freeform window **1808**, the device may provide one or more user interface devices that enable the features or controls determined by the device **100**, in step **2120**. The user interface devices may be as described in conjunction with FIG. **19**.

Furthermore, while the exemplary aspects, embodiments, and/or configurations illustrated herein show the various components of the system collocated, certain components of the system can be located remotely, at distant portions of a distributed network, such as a LAN and/or the Internet, or within a dedicated system. Thus, it should be appreciated, that the components of the system can be combined in to one or more devices, such as a tablet-like device, or collocated on a particular node of a distributed network, such as an analog and/or digital telecommunications network, a packet-switch network, or a circuit-switched network. It will be appreciated from the preceding description, and for reasons of computational efficiency, that the components of the system can be arranged at any location within a distributed network of components without affecting the operation of the system. For example, the various components can be located in a switch such as a PBX and media server, gateway, in one or more communications devices, at one or more users' premises, or some combination thereof. Similarly, one or more functional portions of the system could be distributed between a telecommunications device(s) and an associated computing device.

Furthermore, it should be appreciated that the various links connecting the elements can be wired or wireless links, or any combination thereof, or any other known or later developed element(s) that is capable of supplying and/or communicating data to and from the connected elements. These wired or wireless links can also be secure links and may be capable of communicating encrypted information. Transmission media used as links, for example, can be any suitable carrier for electrical signals, including coaxial cables, copper wire and fiber optics, and may take the form of acoustic or light waves, such as those generated during radio-wave and infra-red data communications.

Also, while the flowcharts have been discussed and illustrated in relation to a particular sequence of events, it should be appreciated that changes, additions, and omissions to this sequence can occur without materially affecting the operation of the disclosed embodiments, configuration, and aspects.

In yet another embodiment, the systems and methods of this disclosure can be implemented in conjunction with a special purpose computer, a programmed microprocessor or microcontroller and peripheral integrated circuit element(s), an ASIC or other integrated circuit, a digital signal processor, a hard-wired electronic or logic circuit such as discrete element circuit, a programmable logic device or gate array such as PLD, PLA, FPGA, PAL, special purpose computer, any comparable means, or the like. In general, any device(s) or means capable of implementing the methodology illustrated herein can be used to implement the various aspects of this disclosure. Exemplary hardware that can be used for the disclosed embodiments, configurations and aspects includes computers, handheld devices, telephones (e.g., cellular, Internet enabled, digital, analog, hybrids, and others), and other